acquisition of land for such SEZs approved now. Further, Ministry of Rural Development has been requested to reformulate a comprehensive Land Acquisition Act to address all relevant issue and also to work out a comprehensive Resettlement and Rehabilitation Policy ensuring livelihood from the project to at least one person from each displaced family.

(e) The Central Government does not provide any direct financial assistance for setting up SEZs and as such no amount has been earmarked for this purpose.

Financial agency for development of SEZs

4461. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up a financial agency dedicated to development of Special Economic Zones in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether some of the funds would be earmarked for farmers and displaced people of weaker sections;

(d) if so, the details of proposals to fund the farmers and others who sacrifice for SEZs; and

(e) the pilot schemes and plans in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (e) Does not arise.

Cap on number of SEZs

4462. SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN:
SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to have any cap on the number of SEZs, State-wise or sector-wise;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and the number of SEZs envisaged to be set up in the next three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Only such applications which satisfy the requirements laid down in the Special Economic Zones Act, 2005 and the Special Economic Zones Rules, 2006 and have been duly recommended by the State Government concerned, are considered by the Special Economic Zone (sez) Board of Approval. It is not possible to estimate the number of SEZs that would be set up in the next three years. However, after the SEZ Act, 2005 and SEZ Rules, 2006 came into effect on 10th February 2006, 237 formal approvals for setting up SEZs have been granted of which 103 SEZs have been notified while 3 have been withdrawn/cancelled.

Gap between farmers and buyers of grapes

4463. SHRI EKANATH K. THAKUR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that one kg. of Indian grapes fetches Rs. 120 in a London supermarket, but the farmer in India gets Rs. 13, because of the high delivery costs for the fruit and vegetable growers in India;

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that the wide gulf between the farmer and the buyer and multiple players in the long linear supply chain lead to high produce prices, without benefiting the farmer; and

(c) if so, the steps Government propose to take to shorten the distance between the farmer and the buyer?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) Yes, Sir. Available information suggests that the retail prices of grapes in the supermarket in United Kingdom fetch prices in the range of Rs. 110—Rs.130 per kg. while the wholesale prices in the major markets of India is Rs. 15 to Rs. 27 per kg. during March, 2007.